

January 21, 2015 – Staunton City Schools Tip Sheet

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Lee Student Wins Shakespeare Competition

(STAUNTON, VA) Nora Oechslin, a sophomore at Robert E. Lee High School won the Regional Shakespeare Competition held last Saturday at the American Shakespeare Center's Blackfriars Playhouse. Miss Oechslin represented Lee High as the winner of the school competition. John Fregosi, Theatre II teacher at Lee, had all of his students prepare a monologue and a sonnet for the school competition which Oechslin won qualifying her to compete in the Regional Competition.

The event was sponsored by the Lexington, Virginia branch of The English-Speaking Union. Miss Oechslin competed with a comical selection of Phebe's "*As You Like It*" and *Sonnett #147*. As a result of winning the regional competition, Oechslin will compete in the national competition scheduled to be held in late April at the Lincoln Center in New York City.

"Nora has an outstanding drive and tremendous respect for classical acting, which came across in her performance at Blackfriars. She was chosen to represent Robert E. Lee by a group of her peers competing opposite her at the school-level contest. Her commitment, talent and pure love of Shakespeare were evident for all to see at the regional level, and she is super excited to be able to experience the national competition. No matter what, she is bound to have lots of fun and learn a great deal from this amazing opportunity," added Mr. Fregosi.



Robert E. Lee High School student, Nora Oechslin, won the Regional Shakespeare Competition and will be competing at the national level in New York City in April.

Dixon Students Ready for Winter

(STAUNTON, VA) Just in time for the chilling winter temperatures, representatives from the Staunton Elks Lodge were on hand at the Dixon Educational Center to deliver winter coats, hats, gloves, and sweatsuits to the preschool students. The Staunton Elks Lodge #351 used funding received from the Elks National Foundation Beacon Grant for this project to provide winter clothing items to 51 preschool students. “We appreciate the continued support from the Elks Lodge in ensuring that our children are prepared for the colder temperatures,” said Dr. Jelisa Wolfe, Executive Director of Student Services. The students were excited to receive the new winter weather accessories and proudly displayed them.



Elks PER Nancy Dickerson, Carrie Hiveley, Barbara Monger, and Suzanne Meeks deliver winter clothing to the preschool students at Dixon Educational Center.

First Graders Practice Problem Solving Skills

(STAUNTON, VA) First grade teachers at Ware have been working with their students on solving problems in various situations. In one project, the students were asked to build a boat out of one piece of aluminum foil. The boat needed to be able to carry pennies across a makeshift pond created in the class. In another project, the students were asked to build the tallest possible freestanding structure out of a supply of cups they were provided. To accomplish these tasks, the students were introduced to an engineering design process of ask (determine the problem), imagine (different solutions to the problem), plan (your solution), create and test your solution, and improve on your final product. The students worked together and learned a great deal in their problem-solving efforts.



First grade students at Ware practice using problem solving skills to help them accomplish specific tasks.

